

ANNUAL OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

BROWNS HOLE C&H

2009

RICHFIELD RANGER DISTRICT

FISHLAKE NATIONAL FOREST

On-Date

Grazing for the 2009 season will begin on or near June 1. When utilization levels are met in a unit or pasture, cattle will be moved into the next unit. If utilization levels are reached on the summer units prior to the end of the grazing season, the cattle will be removed from the allotment in a timely manner. A timely manner will be between 5 days to 2 weeks from the time of notice from this office.

Grazing Sequence and Utilization Levels

Grazing for the 2009 season and utilization levels as required by the Fishlake National Forest Plan Standards and Guidelines will be as follows;

Spring Units; 45% total forage, 70% key species.

Triangle Mountain, Upper Soldier Canyon, Flowell Pasture.

Lower Soldier Canyon, Black Mountain, Maple Spring.

Browns Hole, East of Gooseberry Valley.

Prowse Spring, Stans Pasture, area west of Mud Springs.

Rested Unit;

Rocks, Mud Springs.

When the proper utilization levels are achieved on the spring units then cattle will be moved to the summer unit.

Summer Unit;

27% total forage, 50% key species, (before seedripe)

37% total forage, 60% key species, (after seedripe)

Riparian and Browse Utilization Levels. Utilization in riparian areas will be limited to the following:

Riparian Hydric species will be limited to a 4 inch stubble height.

A 1½ inch stubble height of Kentucky bluegrass.

40 percent of current years available twigs removed on sprouts and young aged plants.

50 percent of current years available twigs removed on mature browse.

Riparian areas will receive considerable attention over the next few years. We need to work together to ensure these areas are not over utilized

Grazing Permit Part 3 Requirements

The permittee is responsible for maintenance of all improvements on the allotment. Before allowing livestock to enter a unit of the allotment, the permittee shall ensure that all structural improvements of that unit are in operative condition. The permittee shall maintain the operative condition of the improvements while livestock are present. The following specifications are part of these maintenance responsibilities:

Water Troughs. All water troughs or open water tanks must be modified to allow safe access to and from the water by mammals and birds.

Fences. All wire fences shall be maintained at a top wire height not to exceed 42 inches measured at the post.

Any improvements which are no longer functional and/or no longer needed will be removed from the allotment by the permittee. Please report any removal of improvements to the District Ranger annually.

Salt and other dietary supplements shall not be placed within one-half mile of riparian areas, water troughs, ponds, or tanks; within one-fourth mile of roads or camping spots, which have frequent use; or within tree plantations.

Dead livestock shall be moved at least one-fourth mile from roads, water sources, and camping spots, which have evidence of frequent use.

All garbage resulting from activities associated with this permit by depositing it into receptacles or at places provided for such purposes.

Special Project Considerations

We want to ask your cooperation again in the continuing battle with musk thistle. We will be trying to work all the infestations we are aware of, however we need your help. If you see a new infestation of thistle please inform us of the location or grub it out if it's not too large.

General Information

Proper distribution of your livestock will be important. As in the past please keep cattle away from the main Gooseberry road as much as possible until later in the grazing season. Please watch the amount of use in the bottoms and along the creeks. When these key areas are used to the proper use level the livestock must be moved. This makes it important to have salt placed properly and forcing cattle to graze the uplands.

We also want to emphasize that all cattle must be off by the off-date. Cattle removal does not start on the off-date.

Tagging

All cattle must be tagged before they enter the allotment. If you need replacement tags please call and we can have the tags ready for you to pick up at your convenience.

Grazing Fees

All grazing fees must be paid prior to entry of livestock on the allotment. Since the payment will be sent to Los Angeles we suggest you send it thirty days before the on-date so this office will receive conformation of your payment. When we have received conformation that your payment has been received then each permittee will receive a letter from the District Ranger granting permission to enter the allotment. We will no longer be able to accept grazing payments at this office.

Cooperation

We appreciate working with your association, and look forward to working with you this summer. If you have any questions please contact District Ranger Fred Houston, Vince Pace, or Bob Tuttle at the District office, 115 East 900 North, Richfield, phone 896-9233.

FRED HOUSTON
District Ranger